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HOUSE BILL 2515

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Pennington, Cooke, Veloria, Buck, Tokuda, Hymes, Brown, Murray, Conway and Mitchell

Read first time 01/12/96. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to guide and service dogs; amending RCW 70.84.020,  
2 70.84.021, and 70.84.030; and adding new sections to chapter 70.84 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.84.020 and 1980 c 109 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 For the purpose of this chapter, the term "guide dog" or "guide dog  
7 trainee" shall mean (1) a dog which is in working harness and is  
8 trained or approved by an accredited school engaged in training dogs  
9 for the purpose of guiding blind persons ((or)); (2) a dog which is  
10 trained or approved by an accredited school engaged in training dogs  
11 for the purpose of assisting hearing impaired persons; or (3) a dog  
12 undergoing training to assist a hearing impaired person.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.84.021 and 1985 c 90 s 1 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 For the purpose of this chapter, "service dog" or "service dog  
16 trainee" means (1) a dog that is trained or approved by an accredited  
17 school, or state institution of higher education, engaged in training  
18 dogs for the purposes of assisting or accommodating a physically

1 disabled person related to the person's physical disability; or (2) a  
2 dog undergoing training to assist a physically disabled person.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.84 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 A guide dog trainee or service dog trainee that is trained by a  
6 nonaccredited individual or organization must be approved as provided  
7 in RCW 70.84.020 and 70.84.021.

8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.84.030 and 1985 c 90 s 2 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 Every totally or partially blind, hearing impaired, or otherwise  
11 physically disabled person and every guide dog trainee or service dog  
12 trainee shall have the right to be accompanied by a guide dog or  
13 service dog or guide dog trainee or service dog trainee in any of the  
14 places listed in RCW 70.84.010(3) without being required to pay an  
15 extra charge for the guide dog or service dog. It shall be unlawful to  
16 refuse service to a blind, hearing impaired, or otherwise physically  
17 disabled person or trainer in any such place solely because the person  
18 is accompanied by a guide dog or service dog.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 70.84 RCW  
20 to read as follows:

21 The department of health shall establish rules to:

22 (1) Accredit schools engaged in training or approving dogs under  
23 this chapter; and

24 (2) Develop a uniform identification collar or tag for dogs  
25 regulated under this chapter.

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